

than that. And I think there's a better way.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I really get a kick out of the Speaker. She thinks the American people don't get what's going on, but they do. The overwhelming majority of Americans don't want this, and they know that she's playing around with the rules here in the House.

And so I just want to make one little statement to the Speaker if she is paying attention. Abraham Lincoln, who was a Member of this body a long time ago, said, You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time.

And if those people on that side of the aisle vote for this turkey, they're going to pay in November.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, one of my favorite things to do is go to a local high school and talk to government classes. For the past 10 years that I've been doing this, I have always told them, there are certain things that are done in the House that are there to protect the minority. One is during appropriation bills: any Member can bring any amendment to the floor on anything they want to that is germane to the bill, and the leadership can't stop them, even their own party or the other party.

This past year, I wasn't able to say that anymore because for the first time in the history of this institution, every appropriation bill that came to the floor was brought under a closed rule so only the amendments that the majority wanted to be offered could be offered.

Something similar is happening here. All of us have told classes that we have taught that your history books are right, if a bill passes the House and a different bill passes the Senate, the House will have to vote on it again. But here we're being told, no, you don't have to do that anymore. You can deem it passed. It just magically appears back in the Senate without having a vote here in the House.

Our institution, this institution, the people's institution, deserves better than that.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. GRAVES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to this

piece of legislation. This is a government takeover of health care. Over the last few months, the American people have voiced their opposition to this bill loud and clear. They know that this bill is being pushed with false promises and backroom deals, and they have had enough. This bill will put the American Government between patients and their doctors. It's going to raise taxes and increase regulations. It will hurt small business owners, the very people who create 7 out of every 10 jobs in this country, by hitting them with impossible mandates.

Make no mistake: this bill will destroy jobs in this country and freeze our economic recovery.

Madam Speaker, Americans know that the answer to the problems in our health care system is not bigger government and more bureaucrats. The answer is more competition and better choices. My colleagues and I have introduced several commonsense reform pieces, but they have been ignored by the majority. It's not too late to start over on legislation that will increase access for all Americans and help control costs. However, this bill is not the answer. I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. MCCARTHY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, just last week I was listening to the Speaker talk about health care. She said—and I had to actually look it up in the transcripts because I couldn't believe what I heard—Madam Speaker, Speaker PELOSI said, "We have to pass it so you can see what's in it." Well, she was wrong then, and she is wrong now. The Democratic majority in this people's House is not listening to the people. Americans do not want this bill.

How do we know this? Well, because in my own town halls last summer, which I had in Bakersfield, California, and Paso Robles, more than 5,000 constituents turned out just to say that. And it is not just because they don't know what's in the bill. They get it. They don't like it. They don't like the political payoffs, the job-killing tax hikes, the huge cuts in Medicare; and most of all, they don't like Washington running their health care.

Maybe that's why this House Democratic majority is poised to use the parliamentary procedure to pass this bill without an actual vote. By doing this, the House majority will prove, once again, they are not listening. It's time for a new direction. Scrap the bill and start over.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, here are 10 reasons why the administration's health bill makes no sense according to Investor's Business Daily. Number one, the people don't want it. In fact, the majority of Americans are opposed to it. Two, doctors don't want it. Three, people are happy with the health care they have. Four, it doesn't cover the people they set out to cover. Five, costs will go up, not down. Six, real cost controls are nowhere to be found. Seven, insurance premiums will rise, not fall. Eight, Medicare is already bankrupting us. Nine, medical care will also deteriorate. And, ten, rationing of care is inevitable.

Madam Speaker, the conclusion is clear: Congress should start over and get it right.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, if the Democrats are so proud of the health care bill, why the subterfuge? Speaker PELOSI said, If we can't cross the fence, we will pole vault over it. We will tunnel under it, we will break through it. In other words, they are going to subvert the legislative process.

If they are so proud of the health care bill, why the Cornhusker kickback? Why the Louisiana purchase? Why the Gator aid? Why the hospital for the folks in Connecticut? Why all the other special interest bills? And if they are so proud, why not post it on the Web page? But, in fact, here is what the Speaker said. These are NANCY PELOSI's words: "We have to pass the bill so that you can find out what's in it." In other words, the height of D.C. arrogance and Beltway we-know-best.

I call on fair-minded Democrats to join me in denouncing this process and standing up for transparent, fair, and open government. Let's have a bill that comes to the floor in which amendments are allowed and one that has come through the committee process.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. MCCAUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, the American people have spoken loud and clear on this issue as recently as the Massachusetts election. They want health care reform, but they reject this bill. This administration and the Democrat majority have been tone deaf to this message. Speaker PELOSI just said, "We need to pass this bill to see what's in it."

I don't quite understand what that really means. But I will tell you what's in this bill: there's over \$500 billion in tax increases, a cut to Medicare by \$500 billion, a new form of government-run